

A BETTER WAY FOR CHILD AND FAMILY WELL-BEING



> What is Child and Family Well-Being?

The proposed Child and Family Well-Being (CFWB) Department represents a transformation for the County of San Diego Health and Human Services Agency (HHSA), fundamentally shifting the ways we serve children, youth, and families.

The **goal** is to provide upstream, family strengthening support to families to enhance child well-being and prevent children and youth from entering the child welfare system, while recognizing that some will still require foster care as an intervention to keep them safe. By integrating programs and resources to serve children, youth, and families in a more holistic way, families can remain together, receive the right supports at the right time and hold the expertise in keeping their children and youth safe. As a result, families can access the help they need sooner and reduce unnecessary child protective actions that have historically harmed and separated them.

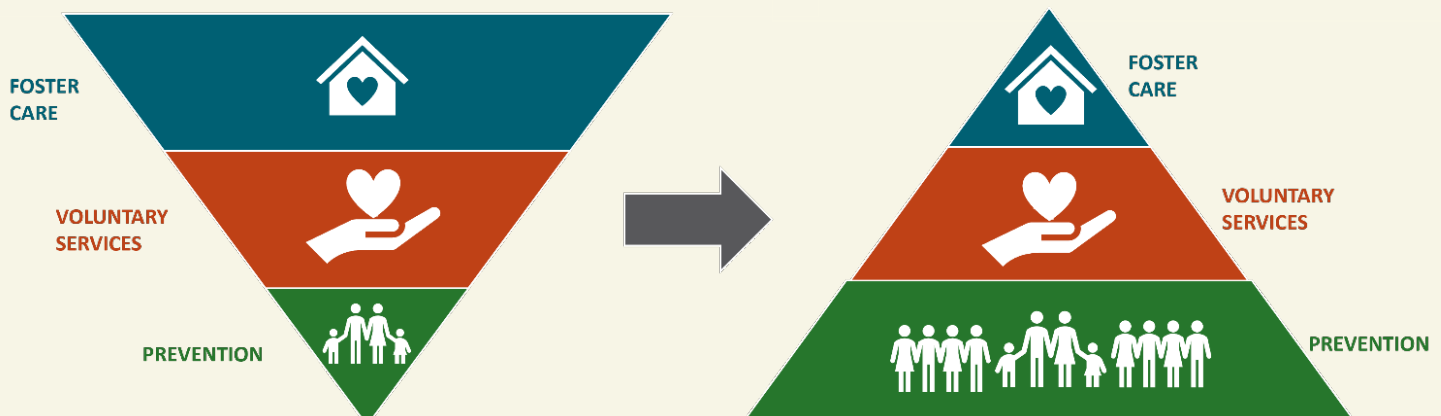
The **vision** is to grow child and family well-being through strengths-based, family-centered, trauma-informed, and culturally responsive services.

By improving coordination, communication and partnership between families and the communities and organizations that support them in San Diego, we will work to ensure all families have an equitable opportunity to build better health, live safely, and thrive.

“
To *change*
your destination,
you have to start
from a different
place.”

> What outcomes do we envision?

- Reduced number of individuals on waitlists
- Strengthened community partnerships
- Improved partnerships with families
- Increased collaboration across child and family serving systems
- Lower rates of child neglect and abuse
- A more equitable system leading to better outcomes for children and youth of color
- Decreased racial disproportionality and disparities
- Increased placement stability
- Fewer children and youth in care

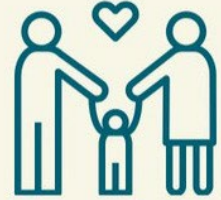


> How are we addressing equity and disproportionality?

Improvements have been made in reducing the number of children and youth entering foster care, but children and youth of color continue to be overrepresented in the child welfare system, and many families, especially those of color, mistrust our system. We recognize a need to transform our work with families and the community to gain their trust and partnership.

Part of the transformation includes building stronger connections. Communities often already have what they need to provide safe, stable, and healthy lives for their children and youth. Partnering with community groups to build on resources helps strengthen communities and the children, youth, and families within them.

FAMILY STRENGTHENING



> Family and Youth Voices

Collaboration between the County of San Diego and communities, youth, and families is a priority to ensure that all voices are heard and considered in the creation of the new CFWB Department. Based on feedback from our community, we want CFWB to continue to build on existing efforts to keep the voice of children, youth, and families at the forefront to strengthen families and keep children and youth safe in their homes, with their family and without formal intervention.

The County of San Diego wants to hear from you about what these services should entail, as those in the community know best what would be beneficial from this new department. In initial discussions, some ideas around child and family strengthening are related to prevention, early intervention, childcare, housing, accessing food and other basic resources.

> Community Partnerships

We are asking our communities, children, youth, and families to partner with us, so all child well-being stakeholders are involved in helping us develop strategies to support this transformation.

> How can I get involved?

We are respectfully requesting permission to gather your expert knowledge, thoughts, questions, and concerns to join in on existing discussions so we can build and learn more about your family and the community. Scan and save the QR code to get additional information - this link will continue to provide updates as CFWB progresses. We hope to learn from you!

